
The “Coming Home to Work” Initiative (CHTW)

CHTW is a part of VBA’s Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) program’s early outreach efforts. Through this initiative, the VR&E Non-Paid Work Experience (NPWE) program is made available to VR&E eligible service members pending medical separation from active duty at Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs), with a special emphasis on OEF/OIF service members. Participants work with a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor to obtain volunteer or work experience in a Government facility.

Non-Paid Work Experience (NPWE)

VR&E NPWE provides eligible veterans with the opportunity to obtain training and practical job experience by working in a Federal, State, or local government agency. Types of work may include administrative, clerical, professional, technical, or wage grade jobs.

Benefits of CHTW

- Provides *valuable civilian job skills* to service members facing medical separation from the military and uncertain futures
- Provides *seamless career transition assistance* to OEF and OIF service members at Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) and veterans after military separation
- Establishes *Employment History* and expands veterans’ ability to hone skills developed under their vocational rehabilitation plan
- Provides exposure to employment opportunities in selected vocational disciplines, and *participants qualify for certain direct hire authorities*
- The government agency has the opportunity to evaluate the veteran prior to consideration for hiring in a temporary or permanent position
- The government agency incurs no cost and has no obligation to hire the veteran participant; however, hiring the veteran is encouraged, when staffing and budget permit

Government Agency Responsibilities

- Interviews the veteran for the NPWE program selection
- Works with VR&E to establish training objectives
- Conducts appropriate on-the-job training
- Provides evaluation reports, normally on a monthly basis

How to Get Started

1. Identify work experience duties for NPWE candidates
2. Invite VR&E Employment Coordinator to visit work site and review identified work experience duties

*“...to care for him who shall have
borne the battle, and for his
widow and his orphan...”*

- Abraham Lincoln -

*For more information on the
“Coming Home to Work”
initiative and the Non-Paid Work
Experience program,
please contact:*

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The “Coming Home to Work” Initiative and The Non-Paid Work Experience Program

VA Pamphlet XX-XX-XX - DRAFT
May 2006



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*We’re committed to suitable employment
for veterans. Let us help you in meeting
your employment needs.*
